Strange Diseases in Villages of Orissa

235. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to news item "Strange disease afflicts Orissa village" appearing in the "Times of India", New Delhi dated April 29, 1993: and

(b) what steps Government have taken to save the persons from the strange disease?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the State Government, the inhabitants of two villages in the Bolgarh area of Khurda District were found to suffer from fluorosis. After examination the patients were provided necessary treatment. Prevrntive steps by providing safe drinking water to the inhabitants are being taken.

Representation from Pilkhuva Nagar Vikas Samiti regarding non-stoppage of Lucknow Mail

*236 SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there are about 15000 monthly ticket holders who are regular commuters between Delhi and Hapur on the Delhi-Moradabad Section of Northern Railway;

(b) whether Government have received any representation from 'Pilkhuva Nagar Vikas Samiti' Pilkhuva, pointing out the hardships caused to these commuters or account of non-stoppage of Lucknow Mail 4229-Dn which is most convenient train for them to board at Pilkhuva;

(c) whether it is a fact that Commuters have in their representation asked for redressal of their grievances; and

(d) if so, what are the demands and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) On an average; 1763 passengers holding Monthly Season Tickets and Quarterly Season Tickets are travelling from Hapur to Ghaziabad, Delhi and New Delhi.

(b) and (c) Provision of stoppage of 4229 Up Lukhnow-New Delhi Mail at Pilkhuva for the convenience of daily passengers is not desirable as it will cause inconvenience to long distance passengers. Moreover, alternative services in 4042 Mussoorie Express, 1 NDH Shuttle and 4047 Balamau Express are available.

(d) Does not arise.

रेलगाड़ियों में प्रथम श्रेणी के डिब्बों को समाप्त किया जाना

*237. **मौलाना अबदुल्ला खान आजमी** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार रेलगाड़ियों में प्रथम श्रेणी के डिब्बों को समाप्त करने का विचार रखती है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और इस संबंध में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० सी० लेंका) : (क) मेल/एक्सप्रेस गाड़ियों तथा दिन के समय चलने वाली इंटर-सिटी एक्सप्रेस गाड़ियों में पहले दर्जे के सवारी डिब्बों के स्थान पर क्रमश: 2-टियर वातानुकूल शयनयानों तथा वातानुकूल कुर्सीयानों की उत्तरोत्तर व्यवस्था करने का प्रस्ताव है ;

(ख) 156 जोड़ी रात्रिकालीन मेल/एक्सप्रेस गाड़ियों तथा 40 जोड़ी दिन के समय चलने वाली गाडियों में क्रमश:

2-टियर वातानुकूल शयनयानों तथा वातानुकल कुर्सीयानों की पहले ही व्यवस्था कर दी गई है ।

Strike by J & K Policemen

*238. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the policemen in Jammu & Kashmir went on strike in April this year on the alleged death of a policeman in custody and went to the extent of submitting a memorandum to the UN Observer in Kashmir;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the Minister of State for Internal Securiy had gone to Kashmir around April 27, 1993, if so what was his observation about the situation and what action has since been taken to deal with the belligerent police personnel?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) to (c) A section of the JKAP Police personnel had resorted to agitation in protest against the alleged death of a Constable of JKAP; during security force operations on 21st April, 1993, in Srinagar. They also presented a memorandum at the office of U.N. Observers in Srinagar. Their main demands were: to take action against the Senior Supdt. of Police, Srinagar; permission for revival of Union activities, which had not been permitted for over 10 years; and reinstatement/release of police employees who had been dismissed or arrested during the last 3 years.

The State Government had ordered an inquiry into the circumstances of the death of the JKAP Constable to be conducted jointly by an officer each from the Army and the Police, of the rank of a Brigadier and an Inspector General, respectively. A criminal case in respect of the incident was also registered. The SSP, Srinagar, was transferred to facilitate the conduct of the said inquiry ordered by the State Government. On 26th April, 1993, the agitating policemen were told about the above decisions, and were assured that all concerned would be advised to give due recognition to the identity cards being carried by the Police personnel and that complaints in this regard will be enquired into at a senior level. They were also advised that 10 members of Police Welfare Association could meet the Addl. Chief Secretary (Home) and D.G.P. on 27th April to discuss pending service, welfare and other allied matters and that the policemen not on duty should report for duty by 1330 hrs on 27th April, 1993.

When the agitating section of policemen did not report for duty on 27th April and continued with their agitation and demonstration in an unruly manner, in the premises of the Police Control Room Complex, the Army and Para Military Forces were called in early on the morning of 28th April, 1993. Consequently, the agitating police personnel deposited their arms and retruned to their barracks. During all stages of the agitation, the concerned authorities exercised restraint and the situation was brought under control without any avoidable confrontattion coolence. The Minister of State for Internal Security visited Srinagar on 27th April 1993 to review the situation arising out of the agitation; and had detailed discussions with the Governor and senior Officials of the State Government.

There have been no untowards incidents since 28 April 1993 on account of this episode and all sections of the State Police are back on their normal duties. The State Government has taken a serious view of the